

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP00/06252

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
Int.Cl' C22C 38/00, C21D 9/46

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Int.Cl' C22C 38/00, C21D 9/46-9/48, 8/02-8/04

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1926-1996 Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1994-2000
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-2000 Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2000

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	JP, 3-17244, A (Kobe Steel, Ltd.), 25 January, 1991 (25.01.91) (Family: none)	1-40
A	JP, 7-56053, B (Sumitomo Metal Industries, Ltd.), 14 June, 1995 (14.06.95) (Family: none)	1-40
A	JP, 7-54051, A (Nisshin Steel Co., Ltd.), 28 February, 1995 (28.02.95) (Family: none)	1-40
A	JP, 2555436, B (Kobe Steel, Ltd.), 05 September, 1996 (05.09.96) (Family: none)	1-40

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

- * Special categories of cited documents:
 "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
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 "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
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 "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
12 December, 2000 (12.12.00)Date of mailing of the international search report
26 December, 2000 (26.12.00)Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Japanese Patent Office

Authorized officer

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